



JUMPING INTO THE TWILIGHT

MORE PHOTOS PAGE 12



CLAIRE KELLY WINS THE BLUE IN THE TWILIGHT JUMPERS \$500 CHILD/ADULT AMATEUR JUMPER CLASSIC ON AMBER HILL FARM'S NINE LINKS
PHOTO BY NANCY KLECK



ANTHONY FORREST ON WHEATLAND FARM'S MAYA

NANCY KLECK

After being on hiatus due to Covid, Twilight Jumpers has returned to Great Meadow to the delight of competitors and spectators alike. Modeled after Great Meadow's highly successful Twilight Polo on Saturday night, why not Twilight Jumpers on a Friday night? The idea originated at Robbie Banner's New Year's Eve party eleven years ago in a conversation with Alden and Gavin Moylan. There would be two invitational classes, a \$500 Child/Adult Amateur Jumper Classic 1.10m and a \$5,000 Mini Prix 1.25m, limited to 20 horses each. Entry fees would be low for competitors, and spectators would get in for a fixed price/carload and be encouraged to bring out their best tailgate fixings. And afterwards, a DJ would draw the party up to the pavilion for a few more hours of dancing to pop tunes under disco lights.

Year after year, the events drew some of the top riders and their horses in the area. David O'Connor and others competed to give young horses an experience under bright lights at night, a scenario that could be daunting to a horse unfamiliar to jumping in those light conditions. It has also been a low key

competition (compared to sanctioned horse shows) for those wanting a go at some serious prize money.

Mike Smith, Kristin Holloway and Jacqueline Mars have sponsored Twilight Jumpers since its inception. Fan favorite Mike Smith also competes locally and got 3rd in the Classic. And darling Caitlin O'Roark earned 7th in the class on Jacqueline Mars' beautiful grey, Landmark's Vegas Vision. Coming back for a repeat of last year's win, Willie Horzempa won 1st and 2nd in the Mini Prix on College Fund and Carracci B respectively; quite a feat!

Behind the fun lies a very serious cause. Proceeds go to Gavin Moylan's High Performance Equestrian Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide financial support for the capable, under-funded rider in times of need, whether it be financial, medical or personal.

The next Twilight Jumpers is Friday, August 5, and the last is on Friday, September 9. Gates open at 6:30 pm. at Great Meadow. Tickets are \$30/carload. The first class starts at 7pm and you'll be home by 11. More information can be found on their Facebook page or at www.EquestrianFoundation.org.

RESIDENCES AT SALAMANDER GROUNDBREAKING

PAGE 6



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FOR SALE

MOUNT SHARON \$8,950,000
77 +/- ACRES
19184 Mt. Sharon Rd, Orange, VA
Kathryn Harrell 703-216-1118
Alan Zuschlag 540-270-8150



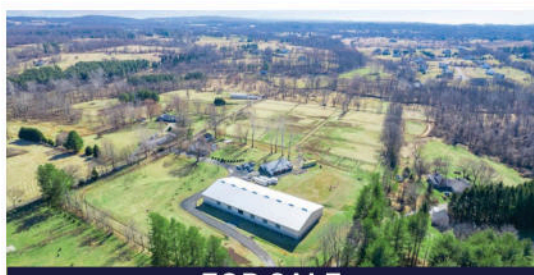
UNDER CONTRACT

EAGLE RIDGE \$3,500,000
40 +/- ACRES
41370 Eagle Ridge Ln, Lovettsville, VA
Kathryn Harrell 703-216-1118
Jim Lemon 703-203-9766



FOR SALE

BOWER HOUSE \$2,295,000
Two Parcels
204 East Washington St, Middleburg, VA
William F.X. Moody 202-274-4684



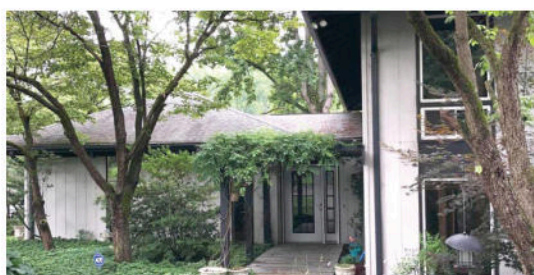
FOR SALE

ARORA FARM \$2,100,000
21 +/- ACRES
39483 Charles Town Pike, Hamilton, VA
Debbie Meighan 571-439-4027



FOR SALE

PURCELLVILLE \$1,249,000
3 +/- ACRES
16792 Yorkfield Ct, Purcellville, VA
Jim Lemon 703-203-9766



NEW LISTING

CLIFTON VILLAGE \$1,049,000
5 +/- ACRES
7429 Clifton Rd, Clifton, VA
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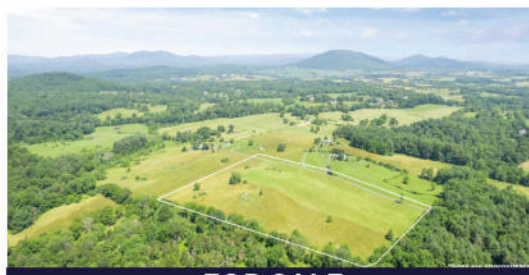
NEW LISTING

DOWNTOWN LEESBURG \$799,000
0.29 +/- ACRE
412 S King St, Leesburg, VA
Debbie Meighan 571-439-4027



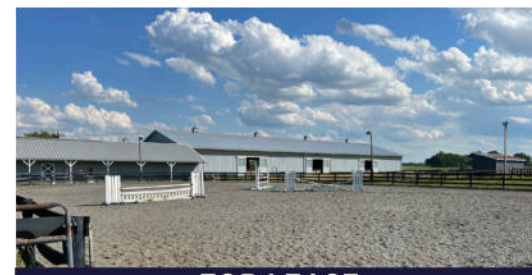
FOR SALE

LOVETTSVILLE \$749,000
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NEWS OF NOTE

BCT CARES 2022 PACK THE 'PACK

5,000 BACKPACKS FILLED WITH FOOD

While difficult to believe, there is a great need in our local communities regarding food-insecure families. This affects children especially hard. Outside of school, many of our local children do not have access to food, jeopardizing their immediate health and long-term mental development.

BCTCares wants to help provide funds for the necessary food to feed these children during summer break and school-year weekends.

Customers, employees, vendors, and community patrons joined together last year, to raise \$43,000, enough to fill over 8,600 backpacks with food for a weekend.

Due to inflationary times, the cost to fill one backpack has risen from \$5 to \$10, enough to feed one child for two days. That's less than some fast food lunches. Our four backpack charity partners (listed below) find their greatest need is during Summer due to depleted inventories. This is why Pack the 'Pack runs dur-

ing July and August each year, to help replenish their food inventories to serve summer break needs as well as stocking up for Fall terms. When the campaign rolls around, please consider supporting this effort by providing a monetary donation at any of our local branches or donating online when we make the DONATE NOW buttons available.

More information can be found at the following <https://www.mybct.bank/about/bctcares/>

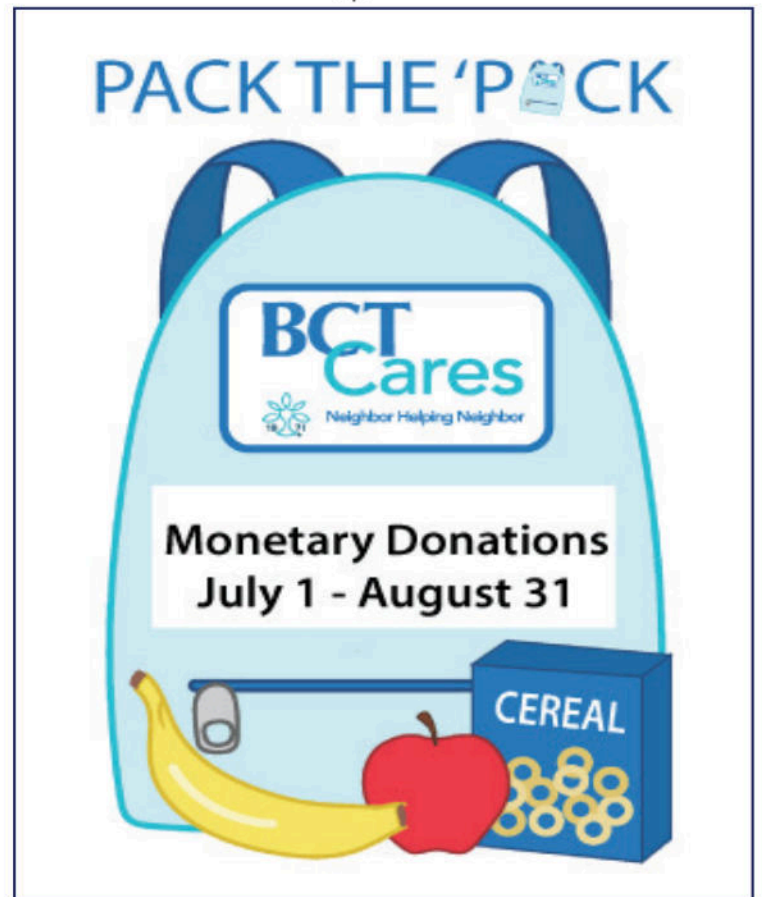
Pack the 'Pack charity partners:

Berkeley County Backpack Program - <http://feedbcwvkids.org/>

Community Combined Ministries - Kidz Power Pacs - <https://communitycombined.org/>

HARC/Micah's Backpack - <https://harccoalition.org/programs/micahs-backpack/>

Loudoun Backpack Coalition - <https://loudouneducationfoundation.org/backpack-coalition/>



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NEWS OF NOTE

AFTER THE BLOWDOWN – WHAT WOULD NATURE DO?



LYNNE KAYE

My family was on vacation when a thunderstorm with 80 mph winds swept through our neighborhood. My phone lit up with distressed neighbors reporting on the extensive blowdown. They described huge mature trees torn up by the roots that crashing through fences. The power and water were out. As neighbors ventured up the road on foot, they recounted trees twisted and blown into pieces and tree tops snapped 30 feet up landing on roads and driveways.

We quickly wrapped up our vacation and headed home. Thankfully, the first clean-up crews reached our neighborhood before we did. Recently cut logs were pushed just far enough off the road to let a car pass, and broken branches were still dangling precariously over roads and power lines.

We feared for the two rows of mature maple, cherry and locust trees that define our property, as well as for the large maple and river birches in the front yard. We found piles of broken trees and branches where there should have been grass and gardens. We found sun where there should have been shade. We found sky where there should have been foliage. There was so much foliage on the ground that it was even hard to tell how many trees were down.

Our first impulse was to clean-up the wreckage immediately. That was not going to happen. The storm wreaked havoc from Purcellville to Culpeper. Arbor-

ists and landscapers were in short supply. Our clean-up had to wait.

The delay gave us time to ponder the broken trees and browning leaves covering our yard. We recalled our recent hikes through awe-inspiring, old growth forests in the Adirondacks of New York. In those forests, fallen trees rested on beds of leaves on the forest floor. The fallen trees and leaves looked at home in the forest, not like wreckage to be cleaned-up. The fallen trees were feeding the living trees that surrounded them. The fallen trees were also feeding ferns, mosses and mushrooms and providing shelter for creatures like foxes and raccoons.

As we kept thinking about the forest, we began to understand that we were inadvertently starving our trees. Every time we cut up, hauled away or burned branches and trees we deprived our trees of nature's intended nutrients. To add insult to injury, we mowed down or weed whacked seedlings before they had a chance to grow into the next generation of trees. There were no trees to replace the ones that blew down.

We asked "WWND – What Would Nature Do?" with the downed trees and leaves in our yard? The answer seemed obvious. Nature would leave downed trees and leaves to decay where they fell. They would provide homes for moss, ferns and mushrooms as well as for firefly larva, earthworms and crickets. The logs might even become dens for foxes or raccoons. As the trees and leaves decayed, they would feed and improve the health of the remaining trees and increase the area containing nutrient-rich soil where seedlings could sprout



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and grow into trees. New foliage, plants and trees would take the place of the lost trees, likely increasing the total area of our yard covered by trees and shade. Nature was not trying to deprive us of trees. Nature was trying to create the conditions to grow more trees. We just needed to look at what was happening in a new way.

Based on our new insights, we considered leaving the trees and branches where the storm deposited them. We decided we were not emotionally or financially ready for an extensive landscape redesign that would allow the downed trees and branches to remain where they fell. Instead, we decided to mimic nature as closely as we could within the existing landscape design. We developed a "What Would Nature Do?" plan to use the deadfall as food and homes for trees and wildlife.

We needed our existing trees to survive future storms while we implemented our new plan, so we found studies of trees that survived hurricanes. The studies confirmed what we observed. Single trees and trees in rows were at risk. The studies showed that native trees in groups of five or more, and of varied species, survived high winds and heavy rains best. The studies found it was also best to have a mix of older and younger trees. Giving trees enough rooting area, and pruning and caring for the trees was also highly beneficial. We hired an arborist who told us nature did a better job than humans of planting trees. He cited a study that found 83% of the trees felled by a Mid-Atlantic storm were planted by humans. Creating groves of trees and letting nature plant them became part of our plan.

We also learned our property was getting thirstier with each bad storm. Mature trees are masters at managing water. Their leaves act as umbrellas and their roots act as sponges. The leaves of a mature oak or maple catch up to 760 gallons of rainwater each year. The needles and branches of a mature evergreen catch up to 4,000 gallons per year. The water they capture then drips to the ground slowly, keeping the soil moist and absorbent. The roots of those same mature trees soak up over 40,000 gallons of water a year. This absorption substantially reduces run-off during a rainstorm. By our math, the trees we lost in the blowdown absorbed enough water to fill a whopping 27 swimming pools every year. Keep water on the property became a priority in our plan.

Putting the information we learned together, it is obvious that the first step in our "What Would Nature Do?" plan is to save existing trees. Saving mature trees helps us catch and retain more rainfall and create more shade faster than we could by cutting down damaged

trees and replacing them with new, young trees. Our arborist is trimming and saving as many trees as possible. Some of them may look a little funky, but our arborist assures us that within a year, the trimmed trees will be sprouting new growth. Within a few years, they will start looking normal again.

Our next act will be to combine existing trees into groves with at least one mature canopy tree serving as an anchor for each new grove of trees. We will keep all of the chipped branches and leaves from the blowdown

on our property. We plan to use the chips to at least somewhat mimic the forest floor and to create large beds around the existing mature trees. As they decay, the wood chips will feed our existing trees with nutrients from their former neighbors. These wood chip beds will also allow the seeds from the existing mature trees to sprout and grow. These seedlings should begin to create diverse, nature-planted groves of trees.

To mimic nature's use of fallen trees as wildlife habitat, we found plans on the Internet for

turning logs and brush into wildlife shelters. We plan to use some of our logs and brush to build shelters in the tree lines. Other logs will go into the landscaping around the remaining trees so the logs can decay naturally to nourish the soil and help retain water.

We are still sad about the trees that we and our neighbors lost in the blowdown. At the same time, the blowdown turned out to be a blessing in disguise. Thinking about the fallen trees in the old growth forests prompted us to ask "What Would Nature Do?" We learned that downed trees

are not always a problem to be cleaned up quickly. Nature uses them to provide food and shelter and so can we.

We had great fun developing our "What Would Nature Do?" plan for using the trees and branches we were gifted by the blowdown. We look forward to using wood chips and logs to feed and water our remaining trees, to create groves of trees to make our property more resilient in wind and rain storms, and to make our home a more welcoming place for more native trees, plants and wildlife.



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NEWS OF NOTE

RESIDENCES AT SALAMANDER GROUNDBREAKING

Residences at Salamander, the highly anticipated community rising on the grounds of Salamander Resort & Spa, has officially held its groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of vertical construction.

Salamander Hotels & Resorts and South Street Partners, the largest owner of private residential club and resort communities in the Southeast, partnered to create the luxury development, which offers 49 built-for-sale homes within the rolling landscape of the Washington, D.C.-area's only Forbes Five-Star resort.

Located on the southern perimeter of the resort's 340 acres and just a short stroll into the village of Middleburg's historic downtown, site work began several months ago. Interest in this unique project has been exceptionally high, and vertical construction on the first phase of homes is now underway with target completion dates in the spring and summer of 2023. The entire development has been designed to combine luxury resort living with the charming character of Middleburg, while also not impacting the existing resort guest experi-

ence.

Nestled in the heart of horse and wine country, the homes are offered in two distinct neighborhoods: The Vineyards and The Stables. Surrounded by rolling pastures, protected old growth forestry and framed by the backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the available built-for-sale offerings are anchored by homesites ranging from 0.4 to 1.3 acres and are positioned to capitalize on the surrounding panoramas.

Ranging from 3,500 to 5,500 square feet of living space, each residence will display a clean, modern, luxury farmhouse style elegantly appointed in designer tiling, high ceilings, expansive windows, and boast a banquet of high-end finishes and materials. A thoughtful pairing of indoor/outdoor living spaces encourages daily connection to the natural surroundings across all four seasons. AZEK products used on the Residences are sustainably made from up to 30% recycled material. The construction is led by Castlerock Enterprises – owned by Gretchen Yahn – which has been awarded four of the five most prestigious custom, residential building awards in the

industry. Prices begin at \$2.7 million for The Vineyards and \$3.65 million for The Stables.

Owners at Residences at Salamander enjoy a variety of benefits and services at Salamander Resort & Spa including 24-hour concierge service, room service, overnight accommodation preferred rates, and member discounts on Salamander's dining, spa and other resort activities. For those that choose to do so, owners may add their home to Salamander Resort's luxury rental program. Additionally, owners receive a complimentary one-year membership at Creighton Farms Golf Club and RdV Vineyards. Reduced memberships rates are also available for Wheels Up, a leader in private aviation.

"An integral part of our vision for Salamander was to create a residential community that connects the vibrancy of the resort with Middleburg's beauty," said Sheila Johnson, the resort's owner and Founder & CEO of Salamander Hotels & Resorts. "We have marked a significant step in furthering our reputation for excellence and quality, and I thank South Street Partners and the Town of Middleburg for forming a true partnership.



I look forward to welcoming our first residents in the near future."

South Street Partners is a private equity real estate investment firm headquartered in Charlotte, NC, and Charleston, SC, whose subsidiaries include Kiawah Island Club, Kiawah Island Real Estate, Palmetto Bluff and The Cliffs communities. South Street acts as a principal investment platform and operator, specializing in the development and management of luxury resorts and residential private club communities. The company has over \$1 billion of assets under management in-

cluding hospitality, residential and commercial real estate investments.

"For generations, families have been drawn to Middleburg's mystique and its renowned equestrian and wine country lifestyle," said Chris Randolph, Partner at South Street. "We are excited to partner with Sheila on this long-awaited offering in this area. We feel confident our background in resort real estate development paired with Sheila's gracious hospitality and Salamander's amenities offers an opportunity that will never again be replicated in the Greater Washington D.C. area."

Salamander Resort & Spa is surrounded by traditional horse farms and 50 wineries within an hour's drive. Its expansive grounds also feature miles of hiking and biking trails, indoor and outdoor pools, a zip-line course, tennis courts, and plenty of opportunities to gather and recreate. The resort has garnered worldwide acclaim for its superior service, horse country-inspired design, luxurious accommodations, lavish Salamander Spa, exceptional dining, and one of the nation's finest equestrian centers.

A storied village, Middleburg has retained much of its original stone architecture and all of its charm. National landmarks dot the streets of the quaint hamlet, a historic draw for luminaries including Jacqueline Kennedy, Elizabeth Taylor and the Firestone family. Recognized for decades for its world-class equestrian culture, fox hunts and galas, the region has also achieved recognition for its burgeoning vineyards, distinguished antique shops, Gold Cup steeplechases and events like the Middleburg Film Festival. Geographically, the village is only a 30-minute drive to Washington Dulles International Airport, and just 60 minutes from Washington, D.C.

For more information, please visit www.ResidencesAtSalamander.com.

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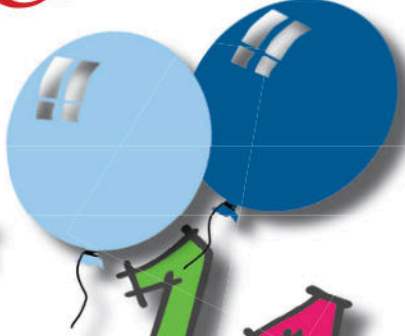
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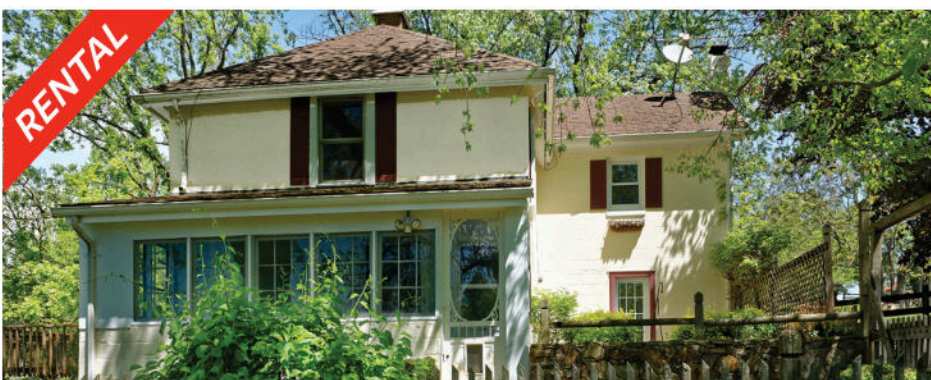


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NEWS OF NOTE

NOVA PARKS ACQUIRES 128 ACRES IN LOUDOUN COUNTY ON POTOMAC

KUHN FAMILY LAND DONATION MAKES NEW PARK POSSIBLE

NOVA Parks has acquired a 128-acre riverfront property in Loudoun County. A donation by philanthropists Chuck & Stacy Kuhn of half the value of the land (\$900,000) and an equal grant from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) made this addition to the parks agency possible. The LWCF is a federal program which provides 50 percent matching funds to state agencies and localities for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation resources.

“Acquiring this new land overlooking the Potomac River is right in line with NOVA Parks’ 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, which places a high value on protecting natural resources and our shared environment,” said NOVA Parks Chair Cate Magennis Wyatt. “NOVA Parks’ plans to plant trees and restore habitat will greatly increase the ecological value of the land and protect the Potomac River.”

This morning, Chuck & Stacy Kuhn, owners of JK Land Holdings, JK Moving Services, and CapRelo, NOVA Parks Chair Cate Magennis Wyatt, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall, Supervisor Kristen Umstatt, and other community leaders signed the deed at the property, which will become Springdale Regional Park.

“Creating this new park helps fulfill our goals of having more green and open space and providing Loudoun citizens with opportunities to enjoy Loudoun’s beauty” said Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall. “We’re grateful to NOVA Parks and Chuck & Stacy Kuhn for their role as stewards of Loudoun County’s rich environmental, historic, and recreational resources.”

Over the past decade, the Kuhns have conserved more than 22,000 acres of land—land greater than the size of Manhattan—ensuring vulnerable vistas and habitats are preserved and protected for future generations. The Kuhns have also won numerous awards, including being recognized by the Washington Business Journal as a Top Corporate Philanthropist and the Old Dominion Land Conservancy for their conservation efforts. In addition to the NOVA Parks donation, they have protected multiple area landmarks and natural habitats by buying and conserving:

- 500-acre *Wolver Hill Farm* in Middleburg
- Historic *White’s Ferry* in Maryland
- 135-acre *Westpark* golf

course in Leesburg that is being transformed into a park

- *JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary*, 87 acres in Loudoun with rare wetlands, native plants, and wildlife
- 150-acres in *Purcellville* used to start the *JK Community Farm*, a charitable effort that alleviates hunger by growing chemical free crops and livestock and donating them to local food-banks
- Historic and now fully renovated *Middleburg Training Center*
- Several thousand acres near Loudoun’s historic villages
- Two contiguous parcels of land in *Saint Louis, Virginia*, one of county’s first African American townships, into conservation easement to protect the 42 acres from development

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation deemed the property eligible for this federal grant because it met the criteria of the Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) goals for land conservation. The VOP aims to protect undeveloped land and waterways that provide essential benefits to society, such as clean air, clean water, food, fiber, open space for recreation, and a sense of place. The VOP prioritizes land along major rivers, like the Potomac.

The purchase saves the property from residential development, as it was once destined to become a subdivision for 16 single family residential lots. Instead, with the adjacent land already owned by NOVA Parks, the new park will comprise 278 acres and ¾ of a mile of Potomac River front. Springdale Regional Park will be able to enhance the natural habitat and to offer future families the chance to visit the park, experience nature, and learn about its rich history. The property was once an important area for Native Americans, who fished along the nearby Heater’s Island.

The first pillar of NOVA Parks’ soon-to-be-finalized 2023-2027 Strategic Plan is protecting the environment. This includes actively acquiring and managing many of the largest intact natural areas in the region. NOVA Parks’ efforts to restore natural resources like riparian buffers—which protect waterways—and to plant trees—which remove ozone-depleting carbon from the air, address the root causes of climate change and help our region be more climate resilient.

THE SALVATION ARMY OF LOUDOUN SEEKS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

INFLATION AND THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURNS IMPACT OUR ABILITY TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

Communities across the nation are impacted by the effects of inflation. Right here, in Loudoun County, the need for assistance is tremendous. Many households are feeling the impact of inflation, but for those who already have so little, the effects are even more devastating.

"Tough economic times

mean more and more people need help. Sadly, requests for help are at a record high. Regardless of who comes to us for assistance, we have a very simple operating philosophy," said Sergeant John McKee. "We work hard to help as many as we can, by meeting people at their greatest point of need. This year alone, we are providing emergency as-

sistance in the form of food, or rental and utility help, to more than 3,500 people in Loudoun County. This isn't possible without the support of our generous community. We are asking for you to come alongside of us, to help those who are struggling to provide for their families during these difficult times."

The Salvation Army of

Loudoun County would like to encourage our generous community to help those less fortunate. Your monetary donations go the farthest, allowing us to fill their food pantry shelves or assist neighbors with overdue rent or utility bills. Donating gently-used items to sell in our Thrift Store also provides funds for emergency assistance. "We

know, firsthand, how generous Loudoun can be during tough times. Please help us help those who have very few places to turn," said Sergeant McKee.

To learn about how you can help The Salvation Army website - <https://salvationarmypotomac.org/loudouncountycorps/>

LOUDOUN WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy is pleased to announce the appointment of three new board members: Jay Frankenfield, Scott Harris, and Pat Whittle. This brings the number of board members to 14. Our board members determine and support the mission and purpose of Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy.

Jay is a 20-year Loudoun resident originally from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He has been with Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District for 15 years as a Conservation Spe-

cialist focusing on implementing the Virginia Agricultural Buffer Maintenance Practice program. He serves on the Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee and the John M. Rowley Goose Creek Land Conservation Fund. He also volunteers his time as a member of the Luckett's Rurians. He completed studies at the University of Richmond, Penn State, and Virginia Tech.

Scott graduated with two degrees from Georgia Tech and in 2009, along with his wife Becky, founded Catocin Creek Distill-

ing Company—the first legal distillery in Loudoun County since before Prohibition. Today they sell their award-winning Virginia rye whisky in over 40 states and 8 countries. In his spare time, Scott has embraced the role of citizen scientist, immersing himself fully in birding. A frequent participant in local bird walks and advocacy for wild spaces, Scott endeavors to spend time birding every single day. There is no kingfisher, kingbird, or kinglet that is safe from his checklist!

Pat has lived most of her life in the Washington, DC area, mov-

ing with her family to Loudoun in 1997. She has always had an interest in nature. She had an organic garden in high school, led the creation of a bluebird trail on the golf course at her college, and spent several years monitoring the trail on the golf course at Algonkian Regional Park. Degreed in both biology and computer science, she has worked as a high school biology teacher, a software engineer, a homeschool mom, a Latin teacher, and an artist. Studying birds and learning more about the importance of native plants are her current pur-

suits. She is working on converting a steep slope on her property from a giant swath of Johnsongrass to a wildflower meadow.

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy is a non-profit organization whose vision is to make Loudoun a place where people and wildlife thrive together. Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy's board members embody our mission and inspire, motivate, and engage people to protect, preserve, and restore wildlife habitat.



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NEWS OF NOTE

NOVA PARKS ACQUIRES 128 ACRES IN LOUDOUN COUNTY ON POTOMAC

KUHN FAMILY LAND DONATION MAKES NEW PARK POSSIBLE

NOVA Parks has acquired a 128-acre riverfront property in Loudoun County. A donation by philanthropists Chuck & Stacy Kuhn of half the value of the land (\$900,000) and an equal grant from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) made this addition to the parks agency possible. The LWCF is a federal program which provides 50 percent matching funds to state agencies and localities for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation resources.

"Acquiring this new land overlooking the Potomac River is right in line with NOVA Parks' 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, which places a high value on protecting natural resources and our shared environment," said NOVA Parks Chair Cate Magennis Wyatt. "NOVA Parks' plans to plant trees and restore habitat will greatly increase the ecological value of the land and protect

the Potomac River."

This morning, Chuck & Stacy Kuhn, owners of JK Land Holdings, JK Moving Services, and CapRelo, NOVA Parks Chair Cate Magennis Wyatt, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall, Supervisor Kristen Umstattd, and other community leaders signed the deed at the property, which will become Springdale Regional Park.

"Creating this new park helps fulfill our goals of having more green and open space and providing Loudoun citizens with opportunities to enjoy Loudoun's beauty" said Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall. "We're grateful to NOVA Parks and Chuck & Stacy Kuhn for their role as stewards of Loudoun County's rich environmental, historic, and recreational resources."

Over the past decade, the Kuhns have conserved more than 22,000 acres of land—land greater than the size of

Manhattan—ensuring vulnerable vistas and habitats are preserved and protected for future generations. The Kuhns have also won numerous awards, including being recognized by the Washington Business Journal as a Top Corporate Philanthropist and the Old Dominion Land Conservancy for their conservation efforts. In addition to the NOVA Parks donation, they have protected multiple area landmarks and natural habitats by buying and conserving:

500-acre Wolver Hill Farm in Middleburg

- *Historic White's Ferry in Maryland*
- *135-acre Westpark golf course in Leesburg that is being transformed into a park*
- *JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary, 87 acres in Loudoun with rare wetlands, native plants, and wildlife*
- *150-acres in Purcellville*

used to start the JK Community Farm, a charitable effort that alleviates hunger by growing chemical free crops and livestock and donating them to local foodbanks

- *Historic and now fully renovated Middleburg Training Center*
- *Several thousand acres near Loudoun's historic villages*
- *Two contiguous parcels of land in Saint Louis, Virginia, one of county's first African American townships, into conservation easement to protect the 42*

acres from development

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation deemed the property eligible for this federal grant because it met the criteria of the Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) goals for land conservation. The VOP aims to protect undeveloped land and waterways that provide essential benefits to society, such as clean air, clean water, food, fiber, open space for recreation, and a sense of place. The VOP prioritizes land along major rivers, like the Potomac.

The purchase saves the property from residential development, as it was once

HOT OFF THE PRESS SUMMER READING BY NATALIE KELLER REINERT HORSE-CRAZY



LAUREN R. GIANNINI

Wow, Wow, Wow, Love Love Love Foaling Season!

Released on July 26, Foaling Season introduces the new Briar Hill Farm series by Natalie Keller Reinert, award-winning author of more than twenty books with horses. She is one of my favorite contemporary equestrian writers whose novels I have enjoyed reading for years. My marathon-read of the ARC (Advance Review Copy) started the minute the digital version of Foaling Season was downloaded. At the end, I was disappointed—no, not already, more!—and also enjoying a smug literary buzz wherein all my horse-loving genes were full of happiness.

But I did something a bit unusual, even for me: I picked up my device and started reading Foaling Season a second time to savor the words and how they weave such a complex portrait of life with horses.

Reinert has created a substantial community of horse-people from diverse backgrounds, social strata, sports, and disciplines.

They get along, disagree, and stuff happens, yet they overcome differences, providing each other with vitally needed support, friendship, sound advice, and wisdom. Foaling Season exceeded my expectations in many ways.

The main characters are elite event riders, Jules Thornton and Pete Morrison, about ten years into their relationship and married, all detailed in the Eventing Series: Bold (prequel); Ambition; Pride; Courage; Luck; Forward; Prospect; Home. It's quite a saga, and you may not always like Jules, who is determined, hard-driven, super competitive, and full of attitude. She's also extremely talented but faces hard lessons, on and off horses. Pete grew up with wealth and seemed to have it all at the posh Briar Hill Farm, which belonged to his grandmother, with whom he agreed, but they never put it into writing. They end up with a new version of Briar Hill Farm, with its spring-fed pond, in Home (tiny spoiler).

Jules has come a long way in Foaling Season, and Pete proves he's a keeper. The birth of their

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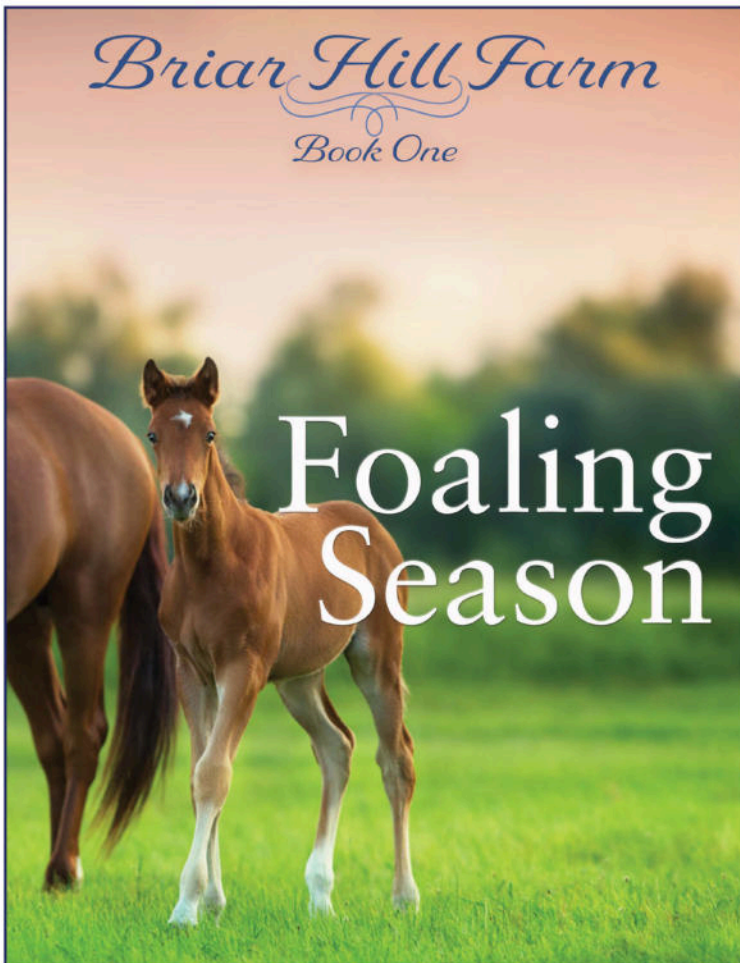
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destined to become a subdivision for 16 single family residential lots. Instead, with the adjacent land already owned by NOVA Parks, the new park will comprise 278 acres and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of Potomac River front. Springdale Regional Park will be able to enhance the natural habitat and to offer future families the chance to visit the park, experience nature, and learn about its rich history. The property was once an important area for Native Americans, who fished along the nearby Heater's Island.

The first pillar of NOVA Parks' soon-to-be-finalized 2023-2027 Strategic Plan is protecting the environment. This includes actively acquiring and managing many of the largest intact natural areas in the region. NOVA Parks' efforts to restore natural resources like riparian buffers—which protect waterways—and to plant trees—which remove ozone-depleting carbon from the air, address the root causes of climate change and help our region be more climate resilient.



son, a couple of months before this tale begins, impacts their lives in many ways. In fact, baby Jack turns Jules inside out and upside down. She finds herself in fierce-mama mode, post-partum, and can't wrap her head (or tender parts) around getting on a horse, not even her beloved Dynamo. She experiences quite an emotional battle. Reinert deals deftly with the issue of childbirth and female equestrian athletes amidst all the other sub-plots that comprise Foaling Season.

Jules finds she's in good company with Alex, Lacey, Lindsay, Jordan, Maddox, Kit, Alexander, Gigi, Clay (rock star), and other human and equine additions at Alachua Eventing Cooperative and the new Briar Hill Farm. Sub-plots abound, adding to the fun. Alex wants to compete with a horse and do well on her own merits because she doesn't feel fulfilled with her success racing. After all, she's married to this brilliant British gentleman with a glorious Thoroughbred farm and a huge reputation in the USA (Alex and Alexander series). Alex moves her event horse to

Alachua and starts riding again with Jules, exercising racehorses, and tending to the broodmares who are foaling. There's never a dull moment.

Reinert knows her subject well. A lifelong horse person, she has plenty of hands-on experience. She has worked professionally in the equestrian world – grooming for top event riders, training off-track Thoroughbreds, galloping racehorses, and even patrolling Central Park on horseback. She worked on breeding farms and as a freelance journalist. She lives in Florida on a small farm with two horses, credits her husband for making it possible for her to write, and is working on Friends With Horses, the next book in the Briar Hill Farm series.

Her horse-filled novels will appeal to kids of all ages and parents alike. No graphic sex or violence. She is a darn good storyteller, and she knows her horses.

Natalie Keller Reinert's Foaling Season is a sure bet.

nataliekreinert.com

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SATURDAY POLO UNDER THE LIGHTS

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|----|------|---|
| 28 | MAY | MILITARY APPRECIATION WITH DJ & DANCING
Free entry for members of the Armed Forces |
| 4 | JUNE | HAWAIIAN LUAU WITH DJ & DANCING
Say Aloha to summer at polo paradise in The Plains |
| 11 | JUNE | CAMOUFLAGE NIGHT
Blend in or stand out with your best camo |
| 18 | JUNE | ONE LOVE
Wear the rainbow & support love for all |
| 25 | JUNE | PRETTY IN PINK
Grab your gal pals for Ladies' Night Out |
| 2 | JULY | STARS & STRIPES WITH DJ & DANCING
Celebrate the 4th early and wear your Red, White & Blue |
| 9 | JULY | JUNGLE NIGHT
Take a walk on the wild side with your best animal print |
| 16 | JULY | PEACE, LOVE & TIE DYE
Get groovy with your favorite tie dye outfit |
| 23 | JULY | DISNEY PLUS PARTY
Disney, Pixar, Marvel & Star Wars - you pick your favorite! |
| 30 | JULY | TACO 'BOUT A FIESTA
Margaritas, Mexican Food & more |
| 6 | AUG | DENIM & DIAMONDS WITH DJ & DANCING
Boot, scoot & boogie |
| 13 | AUG | CAR SHOW NIGHT
Antique, classic & performance cars |
| 20 | AUG | JERSEY NIGHT
Represent your favorite sports team |
| 27 | AUG | NO POLO
MARS Great Meadow International |
| 3 | SEPT | WEAR YOUR WHITES WITH DJ & DANCING
Labor Day Weekend, your last chance to wear white |
| 10 | SEPT | MARDI GRAS WITH DJ & DANCING
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TWILIGHT JUMPERS AT GREAT MEADOW

PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK



1ST PLACE CLAIRE KELLY ON NINE LINKS



2ND PLACE MELANIE FERRIO-WISE ON VIULLANVEVA CONRAD



3RD PLACE MIKE SMITH ON QUALITY TIME 4



4TH PLACE DANIELLE CRIGLER ON NABABSON Z



5TH PLACE CLE TOLEDANO ON HER AVIANA



6TH PLACER KATIE VAN DER REST ON CLASSIC DOUBLE



7TH PLACE CAITLIN O'ROURKE ON LANDMARK'S VEGAS VISION



8TH PLACE JULIE BIGHAM ON BENDIGO



KELLY WATERS ON EXCEL INDEPENDENCE



PEYTON SNIDER ON IPSIE



PHOEBE COOKE ON TOP GUN



KELLY WATERS ON EXCEL INDEPENDENCE

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ANN MACLEOD'S 100TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

PHOTOS BY NANCY KLECK



ANN MACLEOD, ROBIN KEYS, DIANE INGOE



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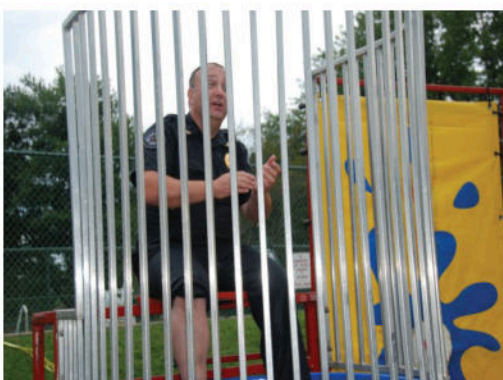
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has it that

Vice Mayor, Peter Leonard-Morgan,
and Ali MacIntyre

Director of Business Development and
Community Partnerships are scheduled
to make an appearance.



PASTIMES

BREATHE BETTER WITH AIRWAY AWARE DENTISTRY

MIDDLEBURG SMILES



DR. ROBERT A. GALLEGOS

What is the most important nutrient we all need to survive? Oxygen! We usually do not think of oxygen as a nutrient, but it is our most important nutrient. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a nutrient as “a substance or ingredient that promotes growth, provides energy, and maintains life.” We can only survive for 3-6 minutes without oxygen, before the onset of permanent brain damage, and eventual death. To get enough of the oxygen we need, we must have a good quality airway.

So what does this have to do

with dentistry? The upper part of the airway consists of the nasal cavity, oral cavity and pharynx. The growth and development of the oral cavity, nasal cavity, and pharynx is controlled by various factors during childhood growth and development. Dentistry is the one specialty that can directly affect the growth and development of these areas of our body, if a deficiency is detected. Dentistry is also the specialty that can make these areas larger, so breathing is improved, which leads to better health upon completion of growth and development. Beneficial dental treatments may include surgery, or orthodontic expansions.

Orthodontic treatment of our

children has become a regular occurrence. Most children today get braces at some time in their youth, usually during the ages of 12-16. Historically, orthodontic treatment has been used to correct crowded teeth, and align the teeth, achieving a pretty smile and a good bite; however, we now know that orthodontic treatment is capable of treating more significant issues, such as developmental airway constriction. For instance, by the age of 7, most of the growth and development of the bones that create the upper airway is completed. This means that if there is an undiagnosed, or untreated, constricted airway in an 8 year old, they are likely to

have the constriction the rest of their life. Treatment of this constriction is now limited to surgical intervention; however, if the constriction is diagnosed prior to the age of 7, corrective orthodontic treatment may be all that is required. Early orthodontic treatment in a younger patient, still in the developmental stages, allows for the expansion of the oral and nasal cavities, and by doing so, it also expands the pharynx. If left untreated until age 8, the constriction is established, and efforts to expand the airway may now require surgery, coordinated with orthodontic expansion.

The bottom line is that airway correction is best controlled with early diagnosis, developmental intervention, and if needed, orthodontic treatment, before the age of 7. If diagnosed early, orthodontic treatment may be the only treatment needed, whereas, diagnosis after the age of 7 often limits orthodontic treatment, and as a result, surgery is usually the answer.

This type of airway awareness in dentistry is new and expanding. Not all dentists are trained to detect airway constrictions, and not all dentists providing orthodontic treatment are trained in airway expansion. General dentists, orthodontists, periodontists, oral surgeons and ENT doctors are all important members of a team of doctors working to improve breathing and overall health. It is important to ask your dentist if



your child's upper airway is sufficient.

If you have questions regarding potential airway issues, for yourself, or a child, it is important to seek an evaluation from a dental professional. Some clues that may indicate an airway constriction include: mouth breathing, congestion, tiredness, trouble paying attention, and/or waking throughout the night.

There is a very good book that discusses how important good breathing is and I would highly recommend it as a good starter book for anyone interested in learning more about how important good breathing is for good health. *Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art*, by James Nestor.

Dr. Robert A. Gallegos is a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, visiting faculty of Spear Education, a member the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine, the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, and the American and Virginia Dental Associations. Dr. Gallegos practices dentistry in Middleburg, VA. www.MiddleburgSmiles.com.

STRETCHING AND SLEEP

FITNESS PRO



KAY COLGAN CERTIFIED FITNESS PROFESSIONAL AND HEALTH COACH

Do you have trouble falling asleep? Does your body feel tight, achy and restless? Maybe your day consisted of sitting in meetings or in your car and now you are asking all of your various muscles that are tight to relax and release as you lay down. Could it be that a good stretch of major muscles is all that's needed to get a good nights sleep?

First, the benefits of stretching include; improved mobility, less soreness, greater range of motion and better circulation. We can't leave out stretching also contributes to a reduction of injuries and a sense of accomplishment and a brighter improved mental outlook.

Stretching can be done any time of day and definitely should be done after a workout. However, there are many benefits to night time stretching. Warm muscles is a must for stretching safely. Obviously we normally stretch after a workout. Stretching after warm bath or shower is awesome. Moving around all day increases body temperature

and warms your muscles. Great opportunity to stretch at night as those muscles are warm. Our muscles become more pliable and benefit more from stretching. Waking up and stretching doesn't yield the results as you are not warmed up so muscles are less pliable.

Adding stretching at night promotes blood flow in and out of muscle tissue. Bonus, you'll sleep better and feel better when you wake up. Daily exercise is a must to achieve maximum benefits. The good news it just takes a few minutes to stretch. As your mind quiets with stretching, the body starts to relax, which is paramount for a good nights rest. A better nights sleep and greater day time mobility with the implementation of stretching before bed.

Come join the many who do a nice stretch before bed. It's a win-win solution to tight sore muscles and a good night rest. For more information about health and fitness, please contact Kay Colgan, Middleburg Pilates and Personal Training, 14 S Madison Street, Middleburg, Virginia or call 540 687-6995.



PASTIMES

REPORT ON TELLURIDE BLUEGRASS 2022.

IN UNISON



STEVE CHASE

When you first drive into Telluride, the view over town takes your breath away. Situated in a box canyon, surrounded on three sides by 14,000-foot mountain peaks, it is one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. At the east end of town is Town Park, the location of hundreds of outdoor music shows. When I first heard music there in 1978, the stage was a small, homemade affair tucked in the south side of the field, just below the path up to Bear Creek. At that time, it was small, only able to accommodate the bands playing there. Over time, as the various musical festivals (Bluegrass, Jazz, Blues, etc.) were becoming national events, a new stage was

built on the west side of the field. The view from the new stage was much improved, with a stunning mountain vista as the backdrop to audiences up to 10,000 people – all there to enjoy the music and nature combined.

We had booked this trip to Telluride Bluegrass in 2019, only to have the pandemic postpone the trip until this June. It was well worth the wait. We set up in our condo just west of the main entrance to the festival on a Wednesday night and beelined for the New Sheridan Bar – I have never missed a visit there since my first trip to Telluride some 45 years ago. Although usually crowded, this time it was quiet, allowing us to secure window seats with the perfect view of the mountains and people passing by.

The one thing you must un-

derstand when going to Telluride Bluegrass Festival, is that it will require some time and effort. In the wee hours of the morning, people start lining up to get in, and it behooves you to do the same to ensure a “good spot” in the field. Because of this, each morning one of us was up around 6:00am, and in line around 7:00am to get our number for the queue. The number is the key: they only pass out 700. All four mornings we were able to get a number around 250 or less, affording us a “good spot” each day. Once you get to the field, there are traditions one must follow. The first is to have a large, sturdy tarp, one that can protect your 10’ x 10’ space. Once the tarp is secured on the ground, demarcating your small piece of real estate, it is yours for the day and the night. One can leave

chairs, blankets, snacks, and other personal belongings there and no one else will touch it – call it festivarian courtesy.

So, we got a great first-day spot on Thursday morning and sat back to enjoy the bright, high-altitude sun, bluebird sky, and amazing music. Also worth mentioning is the food, which is always great, although one of my favorite food trucks, Killer Flank Steak, was gone. Chris Thile kicked things off, followed by Peter Rowan’s Bluegrass Band and Bela Fleck’s My Bluegrass Heart Band. The evening headliner was Jack Black’s band, Tenacious D, a controversial choice for some, but they gave a solid performance that left the audience satisfied and entertained.

Friday morning we were in line early again, got another good

tarp space, and the day started off with the amazing Shiasen, a Navaho duo from New Mexico. Next act was a highlight for us, The Kitchen Dwellers, who played their hearts out, including a great cover of Dicky Betts’, “In Memory of Elizabeth Reed.” Other sets included Raising Appalachia, The Little Smokies, Molly Tuttle, Tyler Childers, Greensky Bluegrass, and the indefatigable, Tim O’Brien, who played one of my favorites, “Dylan’s Senor (Tales of Yankee Power).”

Saturday is usually the biggest day at the festival, so I was up at 5:30am to get in line. We got a great spot, and the day was filled with great music. My wife, Karen, screamed with joy like I never seen when the Jerry Douglas Band played their trademark tune, “Hide and Seek.” Punch Brothers played most of their new album, *Hell on Church Street*, a tribute to the late Tony Rice, and then the rain started up. I finally fled the field during the sustained downpour as Sam Bush’s band started; a wise choice it turns out, as the rain continued into the wee hours of the morning. That said, Telluride Bluegrass is a rain or shine event, so you must be prepared for rain (or even snow) at any time.

By Sunday morning we had dried out and were back in line early for the final day. We got a great spot and participated in a guided meditation by the Drepung Loseling Monks. It was an amazing experience as 500 or so people were transfixed by the monks. Their giant horns echoing off the mountain walls was truly sublime. Following this experience, we enjoyed music by Twisted Pine, the Duhks, and Rhianna Giddens. By then, the rain made a roaring return, for which this time, we were ready. We weathered the storm to see the great Telluride House Band with Sam Bush, Bela Fleck, Jerry Douglas, Edgar Meyer, Bryan Sutton, and Stuart Duncan. The reunion of the country band, The Turnpike Troubadours was next, and while I enjoyed them, I found many of the songs too similar (although, those more familiar with their catalog might disagree.) The octogenarian Grateful Dead bassist, Phil Lesh and his band wrapped the festival. I was psyched to see Sam Bush and Bela Fleck join them, as well as Greensky Bluegrass’, Paul Hoffman and Anders Beck. We all stood in the field, swaying and grinning to the music, another amazing end to this great festival.

We have wonderful music in the Virginia Piedmont, but sometimes you have to spread your musical wings. Heading out to the Telluride Bluegrass Festival allows you to do that – put it on your list and I’ll see you there next year!

Steve Chase is in Unison listening to the Telluride House Band.

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SUMMER SLIMMIN'

SINCERELY ME



BRANDY GREENWELL

New Year resolutions are often based on health, fitness and preparing for your summer "beach body". I think that the dark winter days are meant for Irish coffees by the fire, comfy sweaters and soups you can eat with a fork. It is much easier to diet and exercise in the

summer; lots of ways to get your sweat on, fresh produce everywhere and long days to be active.

Like many, I am no stranger to dieting and have tried my fair share. Let's recap some of my diet don'ts.

Do you remember the season of The Real World, when Tami wired her jaw shut to keep from eating? Well, I couldn't find a

doctor to do that but my roommates at the time thought a close second would be for us to consume vodka soaked cotton balls as a means of dieting. We heard it worked for Kate Moss.

Jennifer Anniston is said to swear by colonics for a weight loss method. If you think jaw wiring and consuming cotton balls are weird, try having your colon roto-rooted while wide

awake and in a bright room... with company and by choice.

Have you ever ditched carbs? Sure, its fine to eat a 20oz Porterhouse while dining out but you might find yourself wanting to stab someone with that steak knife for a crouton atop the passing 200-calorie salad with the dressing on the side.

My latest is "The Dog Food Diet". Yesterday I was buying a

bag of dog food at Safeway and was asked by the woman behind me if I had a dog. I replied, yes, but this purchase was because I was starting the "Dog Food Diet" again, despite ending up in the hospital the last time. Even though I ended up in the ICU, I did lose 40 pounds and wanted to give it another try.

I told her that it was essentially a perfect diet. Since kibble is nutritionally complete, you just put a few nuggets in your pocket and snack on them when you are hungry. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in the line was enthralled with my story.)

Horried, this woman asked if I ended up in intensive care because I'd been poisoned by the dog food? I told her no, it happened because I stepped off a curb to sniff a cat's a\$\$ and got hit by a car. Her face turned white with shock, but I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard!

And hopefully you are now too. I can't take credit for coming up with that story but rather wanted to pass along the chuckle and lesson. Always keep a positive attitude about dieting, laugh when applicable, and fuel your body with good nourishment made for human consumption. And sometimes, just eat the cake without regret. Be healthy and love all of you, all of the time, friends.



DOG DAYS

AROUND THE TOWN



HAZEL SWEITZER

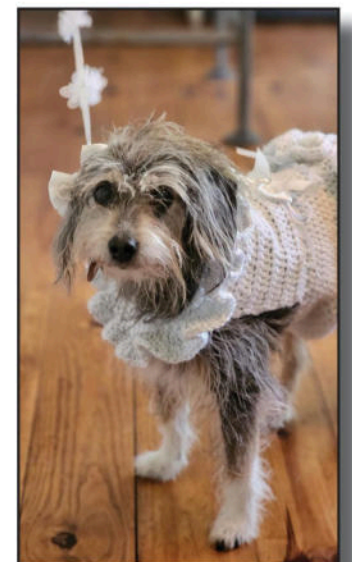
These hot summer days are what they call "Dog Days," which as a dog I never understood. I

know we sort of become sluggish during hot steamy summer days, but I have seen you humans in town, and you all look worse than us; sweaty and slow. Air

Conditioning is a great invention humans created and all of us animals benefit from it. You must be careful in the heat and this is a great time to stay in the cool and

do some things you maybe have put off, like Tom has a new cleaning mission in the house. He calls it a "Drawer a day." He chooses one drawer a day that needs his attention. Believe me, you do not want to see our junk drawer. The word junk is a kind name for it. This is one activity he can do in the air-conditioning along with writing music at the piano and his emails. For me, I am writing this in the AC as well.

It is important to be careful out there. I go on much shorter walks because the pads of my paws do not like the hot ground, and Tom makes sure I drink twice as much water. We exercise outside early in the morning too. But, summer is beautiful so I try to look at the flowers, and trees and all the flourishing nature that summer has to offer. Before we know it, my favorite time of year with be here. Fall! So, stay cool drink



a lot of water, don't stay outside too long. Find ways to stay indoors and near air. Maybe clean out a drawer!

Happy Summer
Love Hazel.



PASTIMES

POMEGRANATE MOLASSES GLAZED MEATBALLS

THE KITCHEN PHILOSOPHY - WWW.THEKITCHENPHILOSOPHY.COM

EMILY TYLER

These little meatballs are so addictive - and easy to do for a cocktail party. They can all be made ahead and just baked when you are ready. If you want to keep the oven off you can use the grill, just make them burger size and glaze after you have turned them once - The glaze is also fabulous on salmon... Oh how I love summer cooking!

Makes 18-20 small meatballs

Glaze:

3 tablespoons Hoisin sauce

2 tablespoons pomegranate molasses

2 tablespoons soy sauce

1 tablespoon miso paste

Combine the glaze ingredients in a bowl and set aside

Meatballs

1 pound ground chuck

½ cup crispy onions*

1 egg

2 tablespoons sesame seeds

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees

Combine the ground chuck, crispy onions and egg in a bowl and mix until well combined

Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil

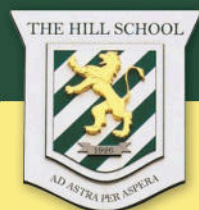
Form the meatballs with a 1 ½ inch ice cream/cookie scoop and place on the baking sheet

Drizzle the glaze over the meatballs and sprinkle with the sesame seeds

Bake for 13-15 minutes or until well browned and cooked through

Transfer to a platter and serve warm to room temperature

*There are many brands of crispy onions and all vary on additions beyond onions and oil. The classic is French's Crispy Fried Onions. I found organic "Golden Farms" Crispy Onions at Wegmans.



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TIM BURCH

The owners of this gorgeous Loudoun County home have a busy schedule and rather large family, including five kids that are constantly in and out and two dogs running around. So, while they desperately wanted to update their kitchen and primary suite, they were concerned that a construction project wouldn't be

feasible with their lifestyle.

Can you relate? Unfortunately, these concerns sometimes keep people from taking the first step toward getting the home transformation they desire. I'm not going to sugar coat it – remodeling can be disruptive. But I can confidently say that a top-notch remodeler focused on your best interests should have a proven process for making a renovation a little less inconvenient and

far more tolerable than you may expect!

Thankfully, this family made that first call! BOWA's team of experts asked all the right questions to uncover their concerns and get to the "why" behind their hesitation and the changes they wanted to make. Fueled with this information, they came up with a design and plan of action that was efficient, addressed their concerns AND would deliver re-

markable results.

Starting with the kitchen, the solution was a total reconfiguration that maximizes natural light and creates a better flow. This involved removing an oddly angled island, relocating the breakfast area, reorienting the cabinetry, and opening the space beneath the staircase. Contrasting countertops and cabinetry, a pantry with sliding farmhouse door, wine cooler, and unobstructed views into the family room make this space exactly what the homeowners wanted. To keep the household running and family fed, temporary kitchens are usually the best solution for making the remodeling process more manageable. And, a partner that can adhere to an aggressive, written production schedule, is the key to reclaiming the heart of your home as soon as possible!

In the primary suite, the homeowners are now able to enjoy a new luxurious bathroom. The focal point of this spa-like retreat is the wet room, which features a well-appointed, double-head shower, a soaking tub bathed in natural light, and split-chiseled porcelain tile giving a natural quartzite and limestone look. Stunning! Around the corner is his newly appointed closet and



her new closet, which was created from a former sitting area, and features a custom center island and laundry machine set. Adhering to superior dust protection protocols and clean-jobsite standards are critical to making any renovation more tolerable. Especially when work is on the upper level, where dust can easily get into sleeping quarters and settle in our closets, your remodeler should be taking extra care.

This busy family is now settled back in and enjoying their beautiful home and sharing that our ability to work around their crazy day-to-day life is one of the things they appreciated most. If concerns like these are keeping you from moving forward with a renovation, let's chat. Give me a call at 540-687-6771.

Tim Burch is a Vice President and Owner of BOWA, an award-winning design and construction firm specializing in renovations ranging from owners' suites and kitchens to whole-house remodels and equestrian facilities. For more information, visit bowa.com or call 540-687-6771.



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MIDDLEBURG ECCENTRIC
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FOR AUGUST 25TH ISSUE



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE ARCHITECTS OF THE ROE V. WADE REVERSAL WERE NEVER PRO -LIFE

KATHY KADILAK
THE PLAINS, VA

The term, "pro-life" sounds so pretty, doesn't it? It speaks of dedication to all those supposed American ideals: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Motherhood and apple pie. Think of it, all those happily (or not) pregnant ladies (oops, girls?) busy with household chores and baking meals for the family, kissing hubby on the cheek as he sets out for work as the revered breadwinner of the family. This is the dream of those folks – let's face it, mostly men – who have successfully maneuvered for

decades to take away a woman's right to terminate an unwanted pregnancy.

Let's not give them what they want... that is, to turn back the hands of time to an era where women had little or no self-determination. Short of a sometimes deadly, and always dangerous, procedure to terminate an unwanted pregnancy, our predecessors were consigned to a life not of their choosing.

As someone who has two adult children, I know what it is to be pregnant and to raise a family. For me, it was a joy because I was able to choose the right

time in my life and I was ready for motherhood. This is critical – because even when you're ready, as other parents reading this letter will acknowledge, it is challenging. The challenges are emotional, physical, financial, and practical.

Thrusting this life on someone emotionally, financially, or physically unstable is not just an inconvenience, it is an act of aggressive cruelty. It is cruel to that individual and the baby they are forced to deliver and care for.

Where are the men who are 50 percent responsible for pregnancies in all of this? They are rarely held accountable. I

have volunteered in a health clinic as a pregnancy counselor, and I was tasked with overseeing child support enforcement at the U.S. Department of Justice. I can speak with certainty to the fact that many men simply walk away. This leaves women in the precarious position of raising and financially supporting their children on their own.

In a society that still fails to adequately address affordable health care, childcare, housing, and education – just to name a few important concerns -- the safety net is virtually non-existent.

There isn't enough room

in this letter to list out all the cynical, hypocritical aspects to the term "pro-life" because in every sense this movement was never about life per se, it was always about birth. Further, it was always about big government and religious institutions exerting power over vulnerable women.

Let's take our power back ladies and the men who support us. Vote on November 8th for those candidates who will enact sweeping legislation to protect choice. That is the real pro-life position.

LITTLETON'S MIDDLEBURG

VINCENT BATAOEL
MIDDLEBURG, VIRGINIA

The Town of Middleburg has been withholding information about its annexation projects. Our recent FOIA returned more than one thousand pages revealing a pattern of borderline unethical behavior including withholding information from the public, behind the scenes coordination with developers, and undisclosed use of taxpayer funds to study the feasibility of the projects.

So far the Town has shared two annexation proposals with the public. The first for Windy Hill and the second for condominiums at Homewood Farm. Despite what the Mayor has said, there is no affordable housing in the developer's proposal for Homewood Farm, and no correspondence to indicate any commitment from that developer to affordable

housing.

We also learned in our FOIA that there are two additional proposals that have been withheld from public disclosure. The most concerning is for the development of a 3-star motel along Route 50 connected to the Mt. Defiance Cider Barn, plus potentially "homes and other structures" along the cidery's frontage on Federal Street. The Mayor and Council have been meeting in private with this property owner and his motel team since at least June 2018.

The other project withheld from public view is to annex six plats along Landmark School road. Despite the property's adjacency to the Hill School, this proposal was left out of the Mayor's public input presentation. This particular discussion has been ongoing since at least May 2020.

The Town has already

committed taxpayer dollars to a feasibility study to determine the costs of bringing water and sewer service to the latter annexation project. And it has estimated that the completion of that one project alone will cost the Middleburg taxpayers almost \$250,000. There has not yet been a study of the total cost of all of the proposed annexation projects.

The Town has been meeting developers behind the scenes – in private one on one meetings and talking about it in closed sessions – for four years. There has not been a single noticeable attempt by the Mayor or any of the Council at discouraging the development of open space. Their internal correspondence would be characterized as enthusiastic, with one Councilwoman asking for an "elevator speech" for citizens who have questions about the annexations and one buoyant Councilman was excited to try to get a "tennis court"

proffered out of the motel deal.

Last and most frightening, Littleton withheld seven of his emails and four texts with developers related to these annexation projects, citing executive privilege over the release. According to the Town Clerk the four texts are related to an as yet unknown fifth annexation project. In his communication with the Town Attorney the Mayor cited "potential litigation" related to the release of his messages. We have to wonder what kind of unscrupulous wheeling-and-dealing would cause the Mayor to withhold his correspondence from a full and transparent release.

The Town did not share any of its notes from its secret closed sessions or private one on one meetings, so it is left to anybody's guess what is being said or done behind closed doors.

All of the meetings about potential annexations should have always been public. The community deserves to know about the development projects that will impact us. We should not have to wait for the Town to grace us with select details after years in the making, and we should not have had to submit a FOIA request to learn about the other projects on the table.

Maybe someone from the Council will step up and acknowledge that all of this secrecy is wrong. The Town's whole "pro-growth agenda" needs to be stopped before it goes too far.

The entirety of the FOIA record is available online at: www.preservemiddleburg.com.

LETTER FROM THE PLAINS

ANTHONY WELLS

The war in Ukraine has witnessed to date the worst war crimes and crimes against humanity since the Nazi invasion of Europe and the Soviet Union during World War Two. The relentless Russian targeting of civilians has reached unprecedented levels with zero regard for the Geneva Conventions. The prosecution of Russian perpetrators has yet to reach anything like the level required to match the largest estimated number of war criminals since the Nuremberg war crimes trials at the conclusion of World War Two. At the International Military Tribunal in 1945 the United States played the leading role with the United Kingdom. I have written about the last surviving US Nuremberg prosecutor in an earlier Letter, the 102 years old Benjamin Ferencz (born March 11, 1920), one of

the greatest ever exemplars of the rule of international law. Both he and I have been critical of the United States' failure to join the International Criminal Court (ICC) and sign in full the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The United States does recognize UNCLOS as the legitimate body of "Customary Law" with regard to the Law of the Sea, though not a full signatory. This places the United States in my opinion in a somewhat equivocal position when Russian war crimes are hopefully pursued in earnest. Please recall that the worst of the Nazi war criminals were duly executed at Nuremberg. The United States Congress has argued that only a US Federal Court, not the ICC, can prosecute an American citizen who may be accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity. Hence the American aversion to joining the ICC and having US judges sitting in The Hague with the other

judges from the signatory states.

The ongoing serious global grain crisis precipitated by Russian actions in the Black Sea preventing the free flow of shipping internationally, and particularly to those nations desperate to receive Ukrainian grain, raises critical questions about the enforcement of UNCLOS. Many of the ships involved are not Ukrainian, rather flags of convenience under traditionally well known nations that provide the necessary insurance and legal protection for such vessels. In addition organizations such as Lloyds of London have significant insurance interests in many vessels. The Russians are guilty under UNCLOS of deliberately violating the basic laws of the sea. This raises the fundamental question about how should the United States and its allies, together with the many third party nations

involved, either as recipients of grain or shipping flag carriers, respond in positive and decisive ways to challenge the Russian blockade. The NATO allies have extraordinarily powerful naval forces in the Mediterranean, led by the United States Sixth Fleet. Turkey, Greece, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, and the United Kingdom's Royal Navy combine with the US Sixth Fleet to present a powerful challenge to Russian violations of UNCLOS. In 1962 President John F. Kennedy did not hesitate in challenging Soviet aggression with regard to the Cuban missile crisis. The countervailing power used was maritime, the United States Navy, that challenged the Soviet Navy. In addition the non aligned nations whose ships are involved can help by requesting protection. The Montreux Convention is an inhibiting factor in controlling naval movements through the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles Straits in Turkey. One possibility

is using a land bridge for grain exports across Ukraine to Poland and then onwards to various potential ports for export, a far less confrontational solution.

How can Russia and its leader be held accountable for war crimes? What should the United States do? The Russian subterfuge of launching an attack because of a supposed Neo Nazi regime that was persecuting Russian speaking minorities is clearly without basis. The so called "Special Military Operation" that followed was an evil war of attrition against not just the Ukrainian Army, but the whole civilian population, with appalling consequences. The refugee crisis that ensued has resulted in the worst since World War Two, with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees estimating in excess of three million Ukrainians being forced to flee their country. The High Commissioner, Filippo

Grandi, has gone so far as to say the number may in fact exceed ten million, an unconscionable act on the part of Putin's Russia.

The Ukrainian government has filed with the International Court of Justice proceedings against Russia under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the crime of genocide. In the United States Attorney General Merrick Garland has set up within the Justice Department a new "Accountability Team" to identify and prosecute war criminals in Ukraine. This will be led by Eli Rosenbaum, who has a distinguished background in tracking down Nazis. Back in February the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Karim Khan, QC, indicated that he was opening a formal enquiry into Ukrainian war crimes. 39 countries that are parties to the Rome Statute petitioned the ICC to begin an investigation. Eccentric readers should recall that the ICC is a permanent international criminal court located in The Hague, Netherlands. The key

Rome Statute covers four core crimes: genocide; crimes against humanity; war crimes, and crimes of aggression. There are 123 ICC member states. Although Ukraine, like Russia, signed the Statute but did not ratify it, Ukraine has issued a Declaration under Article 12(3) granting the ICC jurisdiction. The Ukraine sought similar intervention by the ICC in 2014.

There is a huge task ahead to collect evidence, locating witnesses, and locating and arresting defendants. The ICC does not try "In Absentia", so unless Putin travels to an ICC signatory country he cannot be arrested even if an arrest warrant is issued. The quality and quantity of evidence is going to be very tough to assemble given the refugee situation, lack of formal records, and the overall infrastructure breakdown in Ukraine. Prosecution of senior Russians is going to be very difficult. The issue of those who committed atrocities and those who gave the orders is ever present. ICC case law shows that soldiers on the ground who

commit atrocities can be held criminally liable for the actions of those who commanded them, though the ICC burden of proof is significant.

It is possible that the United Nations Security Council may create a special tribunal for Ukraine, with Rwanda and Yugoslavia as precedents for special International Criminal Tribunals. Similarly special courts have been established to address atrocities in Cambodia (the Khmer Rouge), Sierra Leon (during the civil war), and crimes committed in Kosovo 1998-2000.

The Russians have not been deterred by the threat of ICC legal action since the February 28 announcement by the ICC. They continue to commit appalling atrocities, such as the March 9 attack on the Mariupol hospital.

Putin is certainly isolated legally and morally. The actions of the ICC, and the 39 states in support of war crimes investigation and prosecution, may not be sufficient to bring

a cease fire and, at this stage, peace. However it is very clear that the ICC now has a clear path to relentlessly ensure that over time all those Russians responsible for heinous crimes in Ukraine are brought to account, and stand trial in The Hague. Eccentric readers join with me in wishing the ICC, and all the international law enforcement agencies involved, all success in bringing to justice those who have committed the most appalling crimes.

Editor's Note: On a cheerful note readers should be aware that Anthony Wells' "Tomato Drive-In" on The Plains Road at Half Way is open. Dr. Wells was called to the Bar of England & Wales as a Barrister of Lincoln's Inn in 1980. He has an abiding interest in International Law and the Law of the Sea.

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CHARLIE WADDELL – VIRGINIA'S SINGING SENATOR

JOHN P. FLANNERY

Charlie Waddell, 90, always had a touch of Georgia, of Braselton, on his mind and, given his deep country voice, seemed a moment away from sharing songs he loved to sing at political gatherings.

When young, Charlie lived on a cotton farm and worshiped at Zion Baptist Church; his Dad was the Choir Director.

He fondly remembered how, at the Barrow County Court House in the 40s and 50s, men played checkers under the shade trees.

Charlie was all about service, he had a thirst for it, unquenchable, both in private acts and public service.

He liked people, being around them, talking, persuading, and helping.

When Charlie came to the Commonwealth of Virginia, he worked for the airlines in customer relations, for American. He also walked miles as a postman. In his later years, his legs complained a great deal but Charlie accepted the infirmity - the cost of the miles of joy he'd walked.

Charlie's eyes squinted so tightly even in a dimly lit room, it was an ophthalmological miracle he saw anything at all. He seemed focused, only on you, what you were saying, what mattered to you.

His wide smile was a greeting - "come over here and talk to me, can I help you, tell me what's on your mind."

But it had to end. On July 19, 2022, Charlie passed into the unseen mist that awaits us all,

whether it's a pause or a full stop.

I met Charlie in 1984, when I thought to challenge a popular incumbent in Northern Virginia, Congressman Frank Wolf.

I was working to gather support to win a primary, to raise funds, to collect endorsements. I was making some head way when Charlie said he was thinking of running, encouraged by his supporters.

My fund-raising and endorsements paused.

Charlie was a challenging opponent, nor was there any question he'd make an effective Congressman.

By 1984, Charlie had been a local county supervisor for Broad Run from 1966 to 1971, and a State Senator starting in 1971, and he ultimately served in the Virginia Senate for 26 years.

We talked about our interests. We were both concerned about preservation. In 1975, Charlie had sponsored a bill in the Senate designating Goose Creek as a state scenic river, signed by then Governor Mills Godwin, Jr., the second stream so designated under the Scenic River Protection Act.

In our discussion, we formed a friendship those many years ago, we spoke, entirely transparent to doubts and hopes and dreams, and Charlie decided to give me a hand, gave instructions on what he'd learned about Virginia politics, said where he thought the votes were, and what issues concerned his constituents.

We took a drive one day and Charlie described how Loudoun was divided East and West by Routh 15, North and South and how public water favored development in the East but wells

in the West did not, he added, but of course some day that will change, and development will explode. So it is written.

The Congressional District ran from Arlington County west to Loudoun County. We won the primary by a 10% margin. Charlie and many others made that possible.

Though we won 95,000 votes in the General Election, it wasn't enough. The voters decided I should remain a trial lawyer instead.

When I was chair of the local Democratic Committee and there was one of those inevitable organizational dust ups, Charlie said, "I hope you understand if I don't get involved in all that." "Of course," I said.

Charlie had served as the Chair of the Democratic Committee in 1967, so he knew of what he spoke.

To have any salutary effect in politics, the art of the possible it's said, you have to play a long game, and politics is a contact sport, so you are always at risk to lose your franchise in whatever elective office you serve.

Because Charlie had vision and staying power, he managed to make a difference on transportation issues, became the Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee.

When he left the Senate, he was appointed Deputy Transportation Secretary.

Charlie worked hard on legislation but he was also there for many other candidates over the years.

When Charlie gave you a hand, it also meant a public serenade at campaign events, winning for Charlie, the sobriquet, "Virginia's



Singing Senator."

Charlie recast the words of the Wabash Cannon Ball for whatever candidate at hand he was supporting.

I've had political receptions when Charlie spoke in depth about the politics of the day, but what he really liked was singing for the honored candidate of the hour.

If I took a hand at remembering Charlie that way, as the Waddell Cannon Ball, it might go like this:

You can find examples of this going back to the candidacy of Lt. Gov. Henry Howell. (This is a recording of that rendition - <https://bit.ly/3S1SAeT>)

From the great Atlantic Ocean to the Loudoun County line,

The fields and green blue mountains lead you to this warm welcoming sign,

Charlie Waddell, mighty tall and handsome, known quite well by all,

A rolling powerhouse of action known as the Waddell Cannonball

Many have heard Charlie, the jingles, his populist sentiment, and his roar

He glided one place to another along our woodlands and lake shore,

To change things for the better, his words, a resounding summoning call

So remember now and forever he was the one the only Waddell Cannonball

Here's to Charlie Waddell may his name and work forever stand

In the hills of Virginia, our public halls and throughout the land

His earthly race is over, his work all done, the curtains round him fall

But we shall never forget - Charlie - the Waddell Cannonball.



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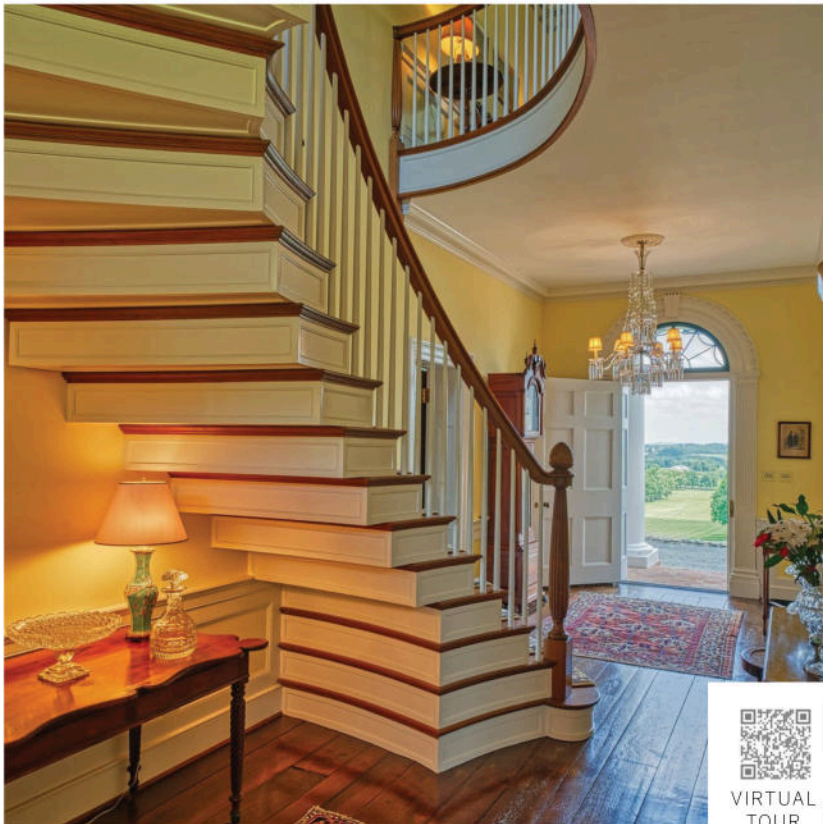
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Peter Leonard-Morgan

Associate Broker

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